Principal's Report

Last day of school on 16th September, 2016    Early Dismissal 2.30pm

Student News

Just recently two very capable students ("dressed to impress") took over the reins as 'Principal For The Day.' Swapping their tokens for this experience gave them a little insight into what happens at the top. Anna's day started with clearing the never ending emails from my inbox until she had to conduct a tour for prospective parents. They were absolutely delighted to have Anna explain the programs we offer and answer all of their questions very confidently. Later Anna was able to meet the Senior Advisor from the Region as he was conducting my performance review on the day. We toured the classes and attended the Prep 100 day celebrations. Add to this, Yard Duty, attending a staff meeting and School Council meetings, followed by a yummy dinner in Mornington, resulted in Anna having a rather good night's sleep, I would imagine. Thank you Anna! It was a delight spending the day with you.

Lachy took over the position on the 23rd August. Lachy also dealt with emails and a guided tour. After some much needed hot chocolate, he was able to meet with a contractor regarding the possibility of improving our oval. A quick inspection of the school highlighted the need for some improvements in the toilet area. Lachy identified that children are not very respectful of the toilets and therefore he spoke to each class individually about how they could look after them in a better way. On our journey we noticed some damage to the windowsills and so we entered this onto the Education Department System. For lunch we went to the shops for fish and chips before heading back for end of day duty. Thank you Lachy for your company!

Lachy and Anna were very popular with the children as they both announced to the school that they could have an extra 5 minutes playtime.
Lunch with the Principal

As part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program, children are rewarded with tokens when they have been observed displaying our values of kindness, perseverance, responsibility, honesty and cooperation. At the end of the week they have an opportunity to exchange the tokens for various prizes. Saving tokens is an option so a bigger prize can be taken! One of the bigger prizes is to have lunch with the Principal!!!! The first person to have lunch with me was the 'lucky?' Austin K. We had a delicious lunch of tomato soup and crunchy toast, followed by a fruit platter with a dipping sauce of yogurt infused with cinnamon, honey and a touch of vanilla prepared and delivered by Russel Ardley. Finally we shared some date and coconut balls. Thank you Austin for a lovely time!

Last week two more children swapped their tokens to have lunch with me. Amelia and Bobby individually enjoyed yummy chicken and avocado sandwiches. Amelia wanted some ice-cream, while Bobby chose to have chocolate cake. Russell brought us a fruit platter too. We had a lovely time chatting while Russell served us. Thank you girls!

Building Works

In a short while, there will be some developments at the Special Development School next door. The Department of Education and Training are providing some new much needed buildings for them which will be relocated to the far end of our oval. This space is rarely used by us and will offer new possibilities for the students at their school. We had an extraordinary School Council meeting to discuss the proposal and it was unanimously decided that giving some land and gaining some back, closer to our school would benefit both schools.

Book Fair and Dress Up Day

Book Fair and dress up day are always a favourite with the children. The children looked sensational and it never ceases to amaze me how parents can think so creatively. Thank you to parents, children, Di and the lovely Linda for your work.
We are in the planning stages now for 2017 so if you know of anyone who is thinking of enrolling their children at our school, please remind them to do so as soon as possible. Next year we will have over 210 children!!

Mt Eliza Secondary College has confirmed that in 2017 there will be a Year 7 Steiner class available. Great news for those who have chosen this path!

Our pupil free day on Thursday was a perfect opportunity for our Mainstream staff to work on their aspect of the website. Our school is an amazing school and we were not using this marketing opportunity to its fullest. Please look at our website as this will have all the information regarding events coming up. It also has curriculum information as well as enrolment information and policies. Let us know if there is anything you would like to see there that we have possibly overlooked. The website is continually being updated.

Our Steiner teachers attended some training quite a distance away. We will be sharing our learning with each other as the year progresses.

Our NAPLAN results have been returned and we are so incredibly proud of the students who sat this difficult test. Many students have shone this year. Results have been sent home. As usual, please let us know if you would like to speak with your child's teacher.

Following on from a very informative forum on 1st June on Autism, 20 of our staff attended a 'Girls and Autism' evening presented by well renowned psychologist Sally Rigby from the ASD clinic. Over the two information nights, staff have become increasingly more knowledgeable about how to deal with children on the spectrum. Thank you to our dedicated staff who willingly gave up their nights to attend these forums.

The production is moving full steam ahead. The script has been written and the cast has been finalised. Students with main parts are rehearsing diligently while classes are practising their individual performances. Once again all staff, with special mention to Paula, are working hard to make this another huge success.

If you can afford a couple of hours a week to help raise funds for your child’s school, please let the office know. We are always looking for volunteers, particularly in emergencies. The Op Shop is an easy way for the school to fundraise so please help us by supporting it.

Our four I Sea I Care ambassadors (Emily, Kye, Ame’lie and Jazmin) with many children from other Peninsula Schools were recently involved in a program with the Dolphin Research Institute. They spent the day learning about the importance of the Tanti Creek Wetlands and how they are maintained. They also observed the litter trap emptying process, observed freshwater invertebrates and water testing. Thank you Jaki for the event and also to the children for representing us so well.
Mornington Secondary College Band

On Wednesday, 7th September, the Junior and Senior bands from Mornington Secondary College came to entertain our children with their musical skills. The whole school sat in the undercover area listening to and dancing to the wonderful sound of the bands. The head of music encouraged our children to become a member of the band if they attend MSC. One of our students from last year was in the band!

Have a wonderful break, hopefully with much sunshine.
Bev